power plants in the Eastern Region during the Eighth Plan period in view of shortage of power witnessed during the recent past;

(b) whether any decisi on has been taken on the location of power plants both thermal and hydel during the said plan period in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD-KHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Go. vernment is considering setting up new power projects in the Eastern Region to increase power generation. However, the details of the thermal and hydro power stations to be set up during the Eighth Plan period in the Eastern Region as well as in other regions of the country would be known only after the Eighth Plan has been finalised by the Planning Commission.

Health Care plans for Rural Areas

2972. SHRI RATNA BAHA-DUR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WEL-FARE be pleased to State:

(a) what is the per capita expendi-ture on the health care in the country;

(b) what is the percentage of villages in the country not covered by the facilities of Primary Health Centres; and

(c) what steps Government pro-pose to take to evolve plans to pro-vide atleast elementary health care for the countrymen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) As per information available for 1986-87, the per capita expenditure on health was Rs. 54. 57and Rs. 7. 61 on Family Welfare in the country.

(b) The facilities of Primary Health Care are available to all the 5, 57, 137 villages (1981 census).

(c) To provide primary health care nearest to the place of abode of the countrymen, it is proposed to open additional 4765 Sub-Centres, 1344 Primary Health Centres and 269 Community Health Centres during 1990-91 (Target for Punjab is yet to be fixed). Besides, 10, 000 Traditional Birth Attendants (Dais) will be imparted intensive training in conducting aseptic deliveries and educating the Community for availing M. C. H. and immunization services.

Industrialisation of the Backward Hil'y Areas

2973. SHRI PATNA BAHA-DUR RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for promoting in-dustrialisation in the backward hilly areas which have turned restive due to unemployment and problems of under development;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF IN-DUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Industrialisation of a particular district(s) in a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Central Government supplement their efforts by offering certain incentives such as priority in licensing, concessional finance etc. to entrepreneurs setting up industries in centrally notified backward districts including backward hilly districts. Entrepreneurs setting up industries in backward districts/backward hilly districts identified by the Central Government are eligible for the above inentives. In addition, the

Central Government have announced a scheme of Growth Centres to be set up in backward districts. Further, Government have, in principle, agreed to extend the Transport Subsidy Scheme' during the Eighth Five Year Plan under which subsidy is admissible to industrial units set up in selected backward/hilly areas for movement of raw material and finished products subject to prescribed conditions.

Transportation of BombyHigh Gas to Pipavav

2974. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSH ANKER BHATT:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETRO-LEUM AND CHEMICALS be be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government has represented for bringing the Bombay High gas near Pipavav land-fall point; and

(b) if so, at what is the present stage of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF PETRO-LEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): <E and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal was to bring natural gas from the Mid and South Tapti gas fields in the Western Offshore to the Pipavav landfall point. While it has been decided in principle to commit gas from the Tapti field for a power plan to be set up at Pipavav at Saurasthra Coast, this project would be subject to availability of necessary outlays for the Oil & Ga_s Sector as also for the Power Sector in the 8th Five Year Plan.

Allotment of Funds for Salt Labourers' Welfare Activities in Gujarat

2975. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABSHANKER BHATT:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact athat Gujarat contributes 75 per cent or even more towards the total salt cess of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the last so many years, out of the total expenditure met from the salt cess, only about 20 per cent expenditure is incurred in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Govern ment propose to take to allot more funds for the Salt Labourers' Wel-fare activities in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF INDUS-TRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The total cess collection from Salt Industry during the last 5 years has been Rs. 873. 90 lakhs, out of which the Contribution of salt manufacturers of Gujarat was Rs. 634. 59 lakhs, constituting 72. 62 per cent. Similarly the expenditure met out of salt cess proceeds on the development/labour welfre works relating to salt industry during the last 5 years was Rs. 382. 60 lakhs, of which an amount of Rs. 82. 68 lakhs, constituting 21. 6 per cent was spent in Gujarat.

No Statewise allocation is made for incurring expenditure out of the salt cess proceeds. The Salt Cess Act provides that salt cess proceeds are to be utilised mainly for meeting the establishment expenditure of the Salt Department and the surplus, if any, for the development of the Salt industry in the country. Expenditure out of the Cess